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# NASIS

## NEBRASKA ANNUAL SOCIAL INDICATORS SURVEY

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NASIS-84, #3

# PARTICIPATION OF NEBRASKANS IN VOLUNTARY GROUPS

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# The Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey

David R. Johnson - 1984 Study Director

The findings in this report are based on data collected in the eighth Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey (NASIS). This survey is part of an on-going study of the quality of life in Nebraska conducted by the Bureau of Sociological Research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

The sample for the 1984 NASIS consists of 935 respondents eighteen years of age or older residing in households in Nebraska. The sample is selected through a process called random digit dialing: within each three-digit prefix in the state, four-digit numbers are selected randomly from all possible four-digit numbers to complete the telephone number. Respondents are further chosen randomly from the adults in the household and interviewed over the telephone by experienced, professional interviewers from the offices of the Bureau of Sociological Research. All interviewing was done during March and April of 1984. This procedure produces a high-quality, representative sample of Nebraska adults. Analysis shows the sample to be representative of the state on age, sex, race, and geographical distribution.

The interview averaged approximately 35 minutes and included questions about energy use, recreation, political attitudes, occupation, education, family life, and other matters reflecting the quality of life experienced in the state. For the entire sample, the chances are 95 in 100 that the true value for the population lies within a range equal to the reported survey percentage plus or minus 3.3 percent. This is an estimate of maximum error and for most items the percentages are likely to be even more accurate.

The data gathered by NASIS are used by a wide variety of State and local government agencies for policy and program planning and by faculty and students at the University of Nebraska and other colleges for research. No information identifying any respondent is released to any user and the strict confidentiality of individual respondents is rigidly enforced. While the final responsibility for the organization and structure of the survey and for reports produced under its name rests with the Bureau of Sociological Research, public agencies and University departments play an integral part in planning the survey through an Advisory Committee. Public organizations interested in membership on the Advisory Committee should contact the NASIS Study Director.

Funding for NASIS comes from the University of Nebraska, the Bureau of Sociological Research and State and local agencies which buy items and data analysis from the survey.

The NASIS surveys are repeated each year to measure changes in the quality of life in Nebraska. While there is a core of questions which is included every year, each survey has a large component of unique items which address specific topical issues. Plans for future years include continuing to reinterview the 1977 panel every two years to assess changes in their lives. Additional detail on the NASIS surveys can be obtained by contacting the NASIS Study Director at the Bureau of Sociological Research or by sending for a copy of the 1985 NASIS Prospectus.

As part of their daily lives, people take part in a wide variety of organized groups. These range from playing on a softball team in a city league to holding a membership in the Parent Teachers Association and to affiliation with the John Birch Society. What these diverse groups hold in common is that people join them voluntarily, and while they may be related to work, such as a teacher belonging to the PTA or membership in a labor union, they are not part of the organization of the work place.

Membership in voluntary associations is an important part of the American democratic system, and belonging to organizations can play an important role in the quality of life enjoyed by Americans. Aside from the direct benefits they afford the participants, studies by sociologists have shown that the ties between people formed by their membership can have important economic and political benefits. Hiring or promoting a worker above another because he or she belongs to the same lodge or fraternity is one example.

People belong to a wide variety of voluntary associations during their life times. Although people join organizations and drop out for a variety of reasons, they do so of their own accord. Often voluntary association membership changes with a change in status. So for example, people belong to Parent Teachers Associations usually have children in the school system and individuals belonging to Labor Unions are either presently working or have held a job at some point in their lives.

How important are these organizations in Nebraska? Are Nebraskan's active participants in voluntary organizations and to what types of

organizations do they belong? Are there some groups of Nebraskan's who are much more active participants than others? The Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey (NASIS) has included items in several different years, including the 1983 and 1984 surveys, that allow us to answer those questions and to compare the membership of Nebraskans in different societal groups. Since the 1983 survey includes twice as many respondents as 1984, we use this data for this report. However, the finding for both years are very similar as little change in participation of Nebraskans occured over a one year period of time.

The Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey asked Nebraskans about their membership in six general types of organizations. The first type of organization are church-related. Examples of these are church boards or standing committees, men's and women's groups, choir membership or ushering. The next kind of group, job-related associations, includes farmers organizations, labor unions, and business and professional associations. Recreational groups were the third type of organization on which information was gathered. Bowling leagues, golf clubs, and card clubs are all types of recreational groups. Service clubs such as Lions or Rotary, hospital auxiliary, and Masons are examples of the fourth type of organization--fraternal-service. The last two types of voluntary associations are civic-political and "other" organizations. Civic-political organizations are represented by Parent Teachers Association and citizens groups, such as Neighborhood Watch. The kinds of organizations which fall into the "other" category include adult leaders of youth programs such as boy scouts or girl scouts, veterans organizations and the Salvation Army. Respondents in the study were also asked if they held an office in the organization.

## FINDINGS

Over three-quarters (76 percent) of Nebraskans belong to at least one voluntary association. The average number of groups belonged to is 2.16. In general, it appears that Nebraskans are active participants. It would be expected that some Nebraskans are much more active than others. These differences in participation are explored in Table 1. This table presents the average number of organizations to which people belong by sex, age, marital status, degree, employment status, health status, and city size.

### Average number of organizations to which people belong

The survey finds that men and women report belonging to organizations at almost exactly the same rate. This may seem to suggest that sex is unrelated to participation in groups. However, a more detailed examination of this finding later in this report will show that sex is important in other ways regarding memberships. A clear relationship of average memberships and age is found. Membership increases by age until its peak in the 35 to 44 age group, and then begins a gradual decline. Interestingly, however, people over 55 and 65 belong to more organizations on the average than do the younger adults under age 35.

Marital status is the next characteristic examined. Married people belong to the most voluntary associations. This is probably due to having more social obligations such as belong to groups because of their children. Those individuals who are widowed belong to the second most organizations, followed by those who are divorced or separated. People who have never been married belong to the fewest organizations.

The characteristics that appears to be most strongly related to association membership is education. Those individuals having a four year college degree belong to significantly more groups than any other educational level, averaging over 3.6 groups. Participation declines with each decrease in educational attainment down to those with less than a high school degree who average to only slightly more than one organization each. The next social characteristics examined is employment status. People who are working full-time or keeping house belong to the most voluntary associations. They are followed by those working part-time, retired, and "other" such as students and those not working due to illness. Housewives may find the time to be active in groups, explaining their high rate of participation. Health is the next characteristics examined. As one would expect, those who report having excellent health belong to the largest number of voluntary associations, with participation declining as health declines. The final social category examined is city size. Those living in the open country belong to the most voluntary association followed by those living in cities between 2,501 and 10,000, and 10,001 to 30,000. People living in a large city (Grand Island, Lincoln and Omaha) and those living in small towns (under 2,500) belong to the fewest number of associations.

Types of Organizations

Table 2 presents the percentage of Nebraskans belonging to each type of organization covered in the study. The most popular type of organization in the state is church-related. This does not include membership in the church itself, but in organizations related to the church, such as prayer group, choir, etc. Almost 37 percent belong to organizations of this type.

Recreational organizations are a close second, with over 34 percent reporting membership in organizations of this type which include bowling leagues, card clubs, etc. About a fourth of the sample belong to organizations that are related to their job in some way. The category with the fewest number of people reporting membership is that of civic-political groups, with only 14 percent belonging to groups of this type. About a fifth of the sample belongs to fraternal service groups, with other organizations being mentioned by only around 18 percent of the respondents.

We might expect that the types of organizations to which Nebraskans belong are likely to be vary considerably for people from different walks of life. In Table 3, the percent belonging to each type of organization is presented for the same characteristics of Nebraskans examined in table 1. While males and females belonged to the same average number of organizations, the types they belong to differs considerably. Females are much more likely to belong to church-related groups than males and only about half as likely to belong to job-related groups. There is little difference by sex in the chance of belonging to recreational groups, but males are more likely to belong the fraternal-service organizations, while the percent of females reporting membership in civic-political groups exceeds that of males.

Looking next at age, the pattern reported of memberships increasing until around age 40 then declining is repeated for some of the types, but not for all. Membership in church-related organizations starts low in the youngest age group, increases rapidly up to the 35 to 44 age group, then remains generally constant, increasing only fractionally after this point. Membership in job-related organizations shows a marked jump between the youngest group and the 25 to 34 age group, but peaks in the 45-54 age group.

This pattern closely follows the life cycle pattern of increased involvement in a career or job, followed by disengagement from that involvement with retirement, indicated by the low percent belonging over age 65. Participation in recreational groups is highest among the three youngest age groups, and declines slightly thereafter. However, compared to other types of organizations, this one has the smallest changes with age. Fraternal-service membership increases with age up to the 55 to 64 category, declining only slightly after age 65. The pattern for civic-political and other types of organizations general follow the overall pattern for age of an initial increase followed by a decline.

The observation that married people are most integrated into the institutions of American society is born in in most of the types of groups examined. For four of the six types, married people report the highest percent participation. They are the second highest in the other two. Widowed person, mostly women, are more likely to belong to church-related organizations, and the divorced or separated respondents are slightly more likely than the married to belong to job-related groups.

The importance of education for participation in groups is again borne out by the survey findings by type. In every type of group, the least involvement is reported by those who did not graduate from high school. This is even true among church-related and recreational groups. The difference in membership in job-related groups by education is the largest of any type, with over half of those with a four-year college degree belonging compared to only 7 percent for those without a high school degree. The high for college graduates reflects membership in professional organizations which abound in the occupations in which they are employed.

Employment status is related to participation in organizations of different types much as expected. Full-time workers have the highest rate of participation in job-related groups, but generally are participate about the same or slightly lower rates for all other types. Those reporting keeping house, primarily housewives, report high participation in church groups and other organizations. The only category they are really low in job-related groups. The reported health of the respondent has the most effect on participation in recreational activities. For other types of activities, participation declines with poorer health, except for church-related groups, where little difference by health status is found. It appears that with increasingly poorer health, disengagement from activities does not carry over into the religious realm.

The final characteristic is community size. Involvement in church related groups is highest for the rural residents and for small communities and declines with community size. For the other types, the trends are not as clear or as large. Residents of cities over 10,000 are more likely to join civic-political groups, perhaps reflecting membership in various types of neighborhood associations. In the largest cities, fraternal-service organizations are not as popular as they are in the smaller communities.

Office Holding in Organizations

Some people belong to organizations without being actively involved. One way to get at degree of involvement is to find out if the member is an officer of the organization, since officers are usually selected from the more active members. NASIS included a question which for each organization to which a respondent belonged asked whether or not they held now held an office in the

organization. The percent of members holding an office overall and for each type of organization and the social characteristics of the respondents is presented in table 4. The findings in this table need to be interpreted with some cautions. In some cases, the number on which the percents are based are very small, and not likely to be reliable. Also, the chance of someone being an officer will vary by the size of the organization and whether it is a local or national organization. Many job-related organizations are large national organizations without a local branch and they have only a few officers. Small organizations, like local lodges, may have almost all members holding some post in the group. Therefore, comparison among types is difficult.

Overall, 41.8 percent of the respondents belonging to organizations in the NASIS study are also officers. This suggests that overall, the rate of active participation in these groups is rather high. Highest rates of office-holding are for fraternal-civic organizations (49 percent), church-related (47 percent) and other organizations (46 percent). The low rate for recreational groups may reflect that many of them are only informally organized (a softball team) and have few if any officers.

Overall, females are officers more often than males. NASIS did not ask about the type of officer position, but women, compared to men, are perhaps more likely to assume the organizational positions (secretary, treasurer) which abound more than the more powerful positions of chairperson or president. The females greater office holding carries across all types of groups, but their advantage over males is smallest in the civic-political and job-related categories.

While memberships decline after middle-age, office holding for members remains high after age 35 and does not show and real any significant decline

after this age group. In both job-related and church-related groups people over 65 are either the highest or equal to the highest group in holding office. Perhaps the older citizens who retain their memberships into retirement are among the more active members of the organization. The less active members are more likely to leave the organization upon attaining this age.

Looking at marital status, office-holding is most prevalant among the widowed respondents, followed by the married. This may primarily reflect that women are more likely to be in this category and they enjoy a higher office-holding rate than men overall. Going on to education, as one might expect, college graduates have the highest rate of office-holding, although their advantage over those with lower education is not as large as one might expect. While few people who have not completed high school belong to organizations, 55 percent of them are officers. The only group where their rate of office holding is somewhat low compared to those with higher education is in the "other" organizations category.

The findings for employment status are somewhat confusing and not very consistent. Since sex of respondent is closely related to these work status categories, we expect that the findings here primarily reflect the sex differences in the groups. Surprisingly, declining health does not mean declines in office-holding. Perhaps those in poor health who retain their memberships do so because of their high level of involvement in the organization. This is apparent for job-related organizations in which the percent of members who are officers increases with decreasing health. This may also relate to the relationship between health and age.

Finally, we would expect that in the smaller communities the rate of

office holding would be greater as the organizations on the whole would be smaller. This is borne out by the findings, with the highest rate among people in communities under 2500 population. This advantage they enjoy is generally consistent across all organizational types.

Overall, we have shown that Nebraskans are active participants in a number of types of organizations, but that this level of activity and participation does vary for Nebraskans from different walks of life and in different stages of their life cycle. Education was the most important characteristic explaining their participation rates, but for some activities, other characteristics, such as sex, employment status, and age, were also important.

Table 1. Average Number of Voluntary Associations Belonged to by Sex, Age, Marital Status, Degree, Employment Status, Health, and City Size

| | Average Number Of Organizations | N |
|---|---|---|
| **Sex** | | |
| Male | 2.14 | 722 |
| Female | 2.17 | 1112 |
| **Age** | | |
| 18 - 24 | 1.13 | 138 |
| 25 - 34 | 1.92 | 393 |
| 35 - 44 | 2.62 | 342 |
| 45 - 54 | 2.52 | 279 |
| 55 - 64 | 2.35 | 251 |
| 65 and Older | 2.00 | 431 |
| **Marital Status** | | |
| Married | 2.33 | 1283 |
| Widowed | 1.94 | 234 |
| Divorced, Separated | 1.71 | 120 |
| Never Married | 1.58 | 197 |
| **Degree** | | |
| Less than High School | 1.15 | 275 |
| High School | 1.93 | 1107 |
| Associate or Junior College | 2.43 | 100 |
| Bachelor and Over | 3.61 | 351 |
| **Employment Status** | | |
| Working Full-Time | 2.30 | 804 |
| Working Part-Time | 2.11 | 249 |
| Retired | 1.96 | 295 |
| Keeping House | 2.30 | 396 |
| Other | 1.13 | 92 |
| **Health** | | |
| Excellent | 2.52 | 666 |
| Good | 2.04 | 862 |
| Fair | 1.74 | 247 |
| Poor | 1.47 | 52 |
| **City Size** | | |
| Open Country | 2.35 | 433 |
| Under 500 to 2500 | 2.02 | 323 |
| 2501 to 10,000 | 2.20 | 219 |
| 10,001 to 30,000 | 2.19 | 227 |
| Grand Island, Lincoln and Omaha | 2.08 | 632 |

Table 2. Percentage of Respondents Belonging to Church-Related, Job-Related, Recreational, Fraternal-Service, Civic-Political and "Other" Organizations

| | Belong | Do Not Belong |
|---|---|---|
| Church-Related | 36.9% (677) | 63.1% (1157) |
| Job-Related | 24.8 (454) | 75.2 (1380) |
| Recreational | 34.4 (631) | 65.6 (1203) |
| Fraternal-Service | 20.6 (377) | 79.4 (1457) |
| Civic-Political | 14.2 (261) | 85.8 (1573) |
| "Other" Organizations | 18.4 (338) | 81.6 (1496) |

Table 3. Percentage of Respondents Belonging to Church-Related, Job-Related, Recreational, Fraternal-Service, Civic-Political and "Other" Voluntary Associations by Selected Characteristics

| | Church-Related | Job-Related | Recreational | Fraternal-Service | Civic-Political | Other | N |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Sex | | | | | | | |
| Male | 25.3 | 34.5 | 32.4 | 25.3 | 11.8 | 20.6 | 722 |
| Female | 44.4 | 18.4 | 35.7 | 17.4 | 15.8 | 17.0 | 1112 |
| Age | | | | | | | |
| 18 - 24 | 17.4 | 12.3 | 38.4 | 8.7 | 3.6 | 2.9 | 138 |
| 25 - 34 | 26.2 | 28.2 | 41.0 | 13.0 | 17.8 | 15.5 | 393 |
| 35 - 44 | 40.1 | 30.4 | 37.1 | 16.7 | 25.7 | 24.3 | 342 |
| 45 - 54 | 42.7 | 34.1 | 31.2 | 25.8 | 11.8 | 23.3 | 279 |
| 55 - 64 | 42.6 | 27.5 | 28.3 | 28.7 | 11.6 | 18.7 | 251 |
| 65 and Older | 43.4 | 13.5 | 30.6 | 26.2 | 8.4 | 18.1 | 431 |
| Marital Status | | | | | | | |
| Married | 39.3 | 27.0 | 36.2 | 22.2 | 16.2 | 20.1 | 1283 |
| Widowed | 51.3 | 10.7 | 26.9 | 22.2 | 9.4 | 17.5 | 234 |
| Divorced, Separated | 13.3 | 30.0 | 27.5 | 10.0 | 15.8 | 15.8 | 120 |
| Never Married | 18.8 | 23.9 | 35.5 | 14.2 | 6.1 | 10.2 | 197 |
| Degree | | | | | | | |
| Less than High School | 29.5 | 7.3 | 20.7 | 15.6 | 7.3 | 9.1 | 275 |
| High School | 36.0 | 19.4 | 33.7 | 19.4 | 12.6 | 18.1 | 1107 |
| Associate or Jr. College | 45.0 | 28.0 | 42.0 | 20.0 | 23.0 | 20.0 | 100 |
| Bachelors and Over | 43.5 | 54.4 | 45.3 | 28.2 | 22.5 | 26.5 | 351 |
| Employment Status | | | | | | | |
| Working Full-Time | 30.1 | 39.6 | 36.4 | 21.0 | 14.6 | 17.5 | 804 |
| Working Part-Time | 41.0 | 16.1 | 38.2 | 17.3 | 20.5 | 19.7 | 249 |
| Retired | 37.2 | 13.7 | 28.0 | 24.9 | 8.9 | 17.7 | 293 |
| Keeping House | 53.5 | 9.3 | 36.4 | 20.7 | 15.9 | 21.5 | 396 |
| Other | 13.0 | 20.7 | 18.5 | 10.9 | 4.3 | 12.0 | 92 |
| Health | | | | | | | |
| Excellent | 38.3 | 29.9 | 42.6 | 20.9 | 16.8 | 20.7 | 666 |
| Good | 36.4 | 23.9 | 32.9 | 20.1 | 14.4 | 16.9 | 862 |
| Fair | 34.8 | 17.4 | 21.9 | 22.3 | 8.5 | 18.6 | 247 |
| Poor | 37.3 | 10.2 | 15.3 | 16.9 | 6.8 | 13.6 | 59 |
| City Size | | | | | | | |
| Open Country | 46.4 | 29.3 | 35.6 | 21.2 | 12.0 | 21.7 | 433 |
| Under 500 to 2500 | 39.6 | 15.5 | 33.1 | 22.0 | 10.5 | 19.5 | 323 |
| 2501-10,000 | 39.3 | 25.1 | 32.9 | 28.8 | 13.2 | 17.4 | 219 |
| 10,001-30,000 | 34.4 | 22.9 | 35.7 | 22.0 | 18.9 | 18.5 | 227 |
| Grand Island, Lincoln and Omaha | 29.1 | 26.9 | 34.3 | 16.0 | 16.3 | 16.0 | 632 |

Table 4. Percentage of Respondents Holding Office Overall and In The 6 Types of Voluntary Associations by Selected Characteristics

| | Overall | Church-Related | Job-Related | Recreational | Fraternal-Service | Civic-Political | Other |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 41.8 (1401)* | 46.5 (677) | 27.4 (453) | 22.3 (631) | 49.1 (377) | 35.6 (261) | 46.4 (358) |
| Sex | | | | | | | |
| Male | 49.1 (546) | 39.9 (183) | 25.0 (248) | 17.9 (234) | 35.0 (183) | 34.1 (85) | 31.5 (149) |
| Female | 64.0 (855) | 49.0 (494) | 30.2 (205) | 24.9 (397) | 62.4 (194) | 36.4 (176) | 58.2 (189) |
| Age | | | | | | | |
| 18 - 24 | 24.7 (85) | 12.5 (24) | 23.5 (17) | 7.5 (53) | 41.7 (12) | 40.0 ( 5) | 50.0 ( 4) |
| 25 - 34 | 46.4 (295) | 36.9 (103) | 16.4 (110) | 16.8 (161) | 49.0 (51) | 28.6 (70) | 47.5 (61) |
| 35 - 44 | 61.5 (278) | 41.6 (137) | 26.9 (104) | 23.6 (127) | 56.1 (57) | 37.5 (88) | 47.0 (83) |
| 45 - 54 | 62.8 (145) | 51.3 (119) | 34.7 (95) | 25.3 (87) | 36.1 (72) | 42.4 (33) | 50.8 (65) |
| 55 - 64 | 69.4 (136) | 51.4 (107) | 30.4 (69) | 23.9 (71) | 58.3 (72) | 41.4 (29) | 44.7 (47) |
| 65 and Older | 64.9 (316) | 54.0 (187) | 34.5 (58) | 31.1 (132) | 48.7 (113) | 33.3 (36) | 42.3 (78) |
| Marital Status | | | | | | | |
| Married | 60.6 (1033) | 47.8 (504) | 28.1 (345) | 23.2 (465) | 48.4 (285) | 35.1 (208) | 46.9 (258) |
| Widowed | 69.1 (165) | 48.3 (120) | 28.0 (25) | 30.2 (63) | 51.9 (52) | 50.0 (22) | 56.1 (41) |
| Divorced, Separated | 45.3 (75) | 31.3 (16) | 27.8 (36) | 9.1 (33) | 41.7 (12) | 31.6 (19) | 36.8 (19) |
| Never Married | 32.0 (128) | 29.7 (37) | 21.3 (47) | 15.7 (70) | 53.6 (20) | 25.0 (12) | 30.0 (20) |
| Degree | | | | | | | |
| Less than High School | 55.1 (158) | 46.9 (81) | 30.0 (20) | 22.8 (57) | 39.5 (43) | 35.0 (20) | 24.0 (25) |
| High School | 56.1 (841) | 49.0 (398) | 29.8 (215) | 22.3 (373) | 49.8 (215) | 37.4 (139) | 44.5 (200) |
| Associate or Jr. College | 50.6 (85) | 40.0 (45) | 21.4 (28) | 23.8 (42) | 50.0 (20) | 30.4 (23) | 50.0 (20) |
| Bachelors and Over | 67.2 (317) | 41.8 (153) | 25.3 (190) | 22.0 (159) | 51.5 (99) | 34.2 (79) | 55.9 (93) |

Table 4. Percentage of Respondents Holding Office Overall and In The 6 Types of Voluntary Associations by Selected Characteristics (continued)

| | Overall | Church-Related | Job-Related | Recreational | Fraternal-Service | Civic-Political | Other |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Employment Status** | | | | | | | |
| Working Full-Time | 53.3 | 42.6 | 24.9 | 19.8 | 43.2 | 35.0 | 41.1 |
| | (341) | (242) | (317) | (293) | (169) | (117) | (141) |
| Working Part-Time | 61.8 | 38.2 | 22.5 | 17.9 | 60.5 | 39.2 | 55.1 |
| | (191) | (102) | (40) | (95) | (43) | (51) | (49) |
| Retired | 59.0 | 46.8 | 35.0 | 34.1 | 43.8 | 23.1 | 30.8 |
| | (121) | (109) | (40) | (82) | (73) | (26) | (52) |
| Keeping House | 67.7 | 54.7 | 43.2 | 26.4 | 58.5 | 39.7 | 58.8 |
| | (316) | (212) | (37) | (144) | (82) | (63) | (85) |
| Other | 42.9 | 50.0 | 31.6 | 0.0 | 60.0 | 25.0 | 54.5 |
| | (49) | (12) | (19) | (17) | (10) | ( 4) | (11) |
| **Health** | | | | | | | |
| Excellent | 58.2 | 40.0 | 23.1 | 23.2 | 46.8 | 33.9 | 58.0 |
| | (546) | (255) | (199) | (284) | (139) | (112) | (138) |
| Good | 57.4 | 52.2 | 30.7 | 21.5 | 53.2 | 36.3 | 37.7 |
| | (659) | (314) | (205) | (284) | (173) | (124) | (146) |
| Fair | 60.4 | 48.8 | 27.9 | 24.1 | 45.5 | 38.1 | 39.1 |
| | (164) | (86) | (43) | (54) | (55) | (21) | (46) |
| Poor | 62.5 | 31.8 | 50.0 | 11.1 | 30.0 | 50.0 | 50.0 |
| | (32) | (22) | ( 6) | ( 9) | (10) | ( 4) | ( 8) |
| **City Size** | | | | | | | |
| Open Country | 62.8 | 53.7 | 29.9 | 20.1 | 51.1 | 44.2 | 54.1 |
| | (358) | (201) | (127) | (154) | (92) | (52) | (94) |
| Under 500 to 2500 | 64.0 | 50.0 | 28.0 | 29.0 | 57.7 | 41.2 | 49.2 |
| | (242) | (128) | (50) | (107) | (71) | (34) | (63) |
| 2501-10,000 | 59.4 | 45.3 | 29.1 | 19.4 | 42.9 | 34.5 | 50.0 |
| | (175) | (86) | (55) | (72) | (63) | (29) | (38) |
| 10,001-30,000 | 56.3 | 44.9 | 23.1 | 28.4 | 50.0 | 32.6 | 42.9 |
| | (167) | (78) | (52) | (81) | (50) | (43) | (42) |
| Grand Island, Lincoln and Omaha | 51.6 | 37.5 | 26.0 | 19.4 | 44.6 | 31.1 | 37.6 |
| | (459) | (184) | (169) | (217) | (101) | (103) | (101) |

* Number in parentheses represents total number of respondents in the group.

List of reports already released using data gathered in the 1984 Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey. These may be purchased at the indicated price from the Bureau of Sociological Research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

| Report Number | Title |
|---|---|
| 1 | Designs, Procedures, Instruments and Forms for the 1984 NASIS. David R. Johnson. Price: $7.50. |
| 2 | Nebraskans View Their University. Alan Booth. Price: $ .75. |